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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Trade

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce
Sixty-first session
Geneva, 16-19 June 2014
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations*

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Matters arising since the last session
   - (a) UNECE and subsidiary bodies
   - (b) Other organizations
3. Review of UNECE Recommendations
   - (a) Dried Apricots
   - (b) Dried Figs
   - (c) Dried Pineapples

* Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should complete the registration form, downloadable from www.unece.org/trade/agr/welcome.htm and transmit it to the secretariat either by e-mail (Subashini.Narasimhan@unece.org)) or by fax (+41 22 917 0629). Prior to the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves, with a valid identification card/passport, at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny entrance to obtain a security badge to enter the Palais (in case of a problem, please call 022 917 1514). Documents for the meeting and information for Geneva visitors are also available on the website.

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4. Review of existing UNECE Standards and alignment with the 2011 Standard Layout
   (a) Dried Grapes
   (b) Dates
   (c) Almond Kernels
5. Review of proposed new draft Standards (on-going work)
   (a) Dried Cranberries
6. Review of the draft UNECE brochure for Inshell Walnuts
7. Development of sampling plans for tree nuts and for dried produce
8. Review of the DDP Standard Layout Annex - Definition of terms and defects
9. Other business
10. Future work
11. Election of officers
12. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Specialized Section will adopt the agenda.

Documentation: Provisional agenda and annotations (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/1)

2. Matters of interest since the last session

(a) UNECE and subsidiary bodies

The secretariat will present matters arising from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the Committee on Trade and the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards having an impact on the work of the Specialized Section.

Documentation: Report of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2013/2)

(b) Other organizations

Representatives of other organizations and country delegates will inform the Specialized Section about activities taking place in their agencies that are of relevance to the work of the Section.

3. Review of UNECE Recommendations

The Specialized Section will review the following Recommendations, which were adopted by the 2013 session of the Working Party for trial use until November 2014 (Dried Pineapples) or extended for another year (Dried Apricots and Dried Figs). In November 2013, at an informal meeting (Coordination: Turkey), some delegations prepared new drafts for Dried Figs and Dried Apricots pooling all proposals. The latter also contains amendments proposed by the delegation of South Africa.

(a) Dried Apricots

Documentation: Revised Recommendation for Dried Apricots (by the delegations of Germany, South Africa, Turkey, United States of America) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/3)

UNECE Recommendation for Dried Apricots (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2012/19)

(b) Dried Figs

Documentation: Revised Recommendation for Dried Figs (by the delegations of Germany, Turkey, United States of America) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/4)

UNECE Recommendation for Dried Figs (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2012/20)

(c) Dried Pineapples

Documentation: UNECE Recommendation for Dried Pineapples (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2013/28)

Draft proposed Standard for Dried Pineapples - Comments by the delegation of South Africa (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/5)

4. Review of existing UNECE Standards and alignment with the 2011 Standard Layout

(a) Dates

The Specialized Section will review the provisions on "pest damage" contained in the UNECE Standard for Dates (Coordination: Germany).

Documentation: Revised draft Standard for Dates (by the delegation of Germany) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/6)

(b) Dried Grapes

The Specialized Section will review the revised draft Standard for Dried Grapes which has been aligned with the 2011 Standard Layout. In November 2013, at an informal meeting, some delegations prepared a new draft for Dried Grapes pooling the proposed changes. (Coordination: Turkey).

Documentation: Revised draft Standard for Dried Grapes (by the delegations of Germany, Turkey, United States of America)

(ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/7)

(c) Almond Kernels

The Specialized Section will review the revised draft Standard for Almond Kernels that has been aligned with the 2011 Standard Layout (Coordination: USA). It will also examine a proposal to produce a poster outlining and depicting certain provisions of the standard.

Documentation: Revised draft Standard for Almond Kernels (by the delegation of the United States of America)

(ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/8)

5. Review of proposed new draft Standards (on-going work)

At its 2013 session, the Specialized Section had reviewed the proposed draft Standard for Dried Cranberries (coordinated by France, United States of America) and decided that more time was needed to consult with the industry.

(a) Dried Cranberries

Documentation: Revised draft Standard for Dried Cranberries (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2013/8)

Comments by the Canadian cranberry industry (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2013/INF.4)

6. Review of the draft UNECE brochure for Inshell Walnuts

The Specialized Section will review the draft UNECE Brochure for Inshell Walnuts prepared by the delegation of the United States of America.

Documentation: Draft UNECE Brochure for Inshell Walnuts – Explanatory text (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/9)

Draft UNECE Brochure for Inshell Walnuts

7. Development of sampling plans for tree nuts and for dried produce

Delegations are requested to discuss new sampling plans for tree nuts and for dried produce (Coordination: Germany, United States of America, International Nut and Dried Fruit Council (INC)).

Documentation: Sampling plans for tree nuts and for dried produce (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/10)

Codex Alimentarius General Guidelines on Sampling (CAC/GL 50-2004 - Background reference document)

Draft Decision of the Council revising the OECD "Scheme" for the application of international standards for fruit and vegetables, Annex II - operating rules for the conformity checks of produce exported under the "scheme" (C(2006)95 - Background reference document)

8. Review of the DDP Standard Layout Annex – Definition of terms and defects

The Specialized Section will review the terms and defects currently listed in the Annex of the 2011 version of the DDP Standard Layout.

Documentation: 2011 Standard Layout for UNECE Standards on Dry and Dried Produce

10. Other business

Any other issues of interest for the work of the Specialized Section can be discussed under this agenda item.

11. Future work

The Specialized Section will discuss its future work.

12. Election of officers

The Specialized Section will elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson. At its sixtieth session the group elected Mr. Dorian Lafond (United States of America) as Chair and Mr. Joaquim Bellmunt (Spain) as Vice-Chair.

13. Adoption of the report

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of the session.
(ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2014/2)

III. Tentative timetable

Monday, 16 June	14.00 – 18.00	Informal working group session (preparatory discussions on standards, recommendations and brochures) – **no interpretation**
Tuesday, 17 June	10.00 – 13.00	Items 1 - 3
	15.00 – 18.00	Items 4 - 5
Wednesday, 18 June	10.00 – 13.00	Items 6 - 7
	15.00 – 18.00	Items 7 (cont.) - 8
Thursday, 19 June	10.00 – 13.00	Items 10 - 12